

Feb 1974

From the Manse

196 Harbour Lane,
Milnrow.

February, 1974

Dear friends,

Windmills are not very common in this part of the country. Down in Sussex, however, they have some very fine mills, many of them hundreds of years old. Usually it is possible to see them from quite a distance because they stand high up on the hills to catch the wind better and although some have now no arms left, and most of the others that do have them are no longer allowed to revolve, yet they are still a brave sight.

I am told that inside a Sussex windmill you will find, plumb in the centre, a huge post rather like a telephone pole running right up to the top-most loft. This post is much thicker round than a telephone pole though, and very often it is not possible to reach around it with outstretched arms. It is said that when the windmill builders of Sussex were deciding on a suitable site they always looked for two things; a fine windy hill, and one that had a sturdy oak tree growing on top of it. Yes, the centre post of the mill is the trunk of the oak with its roots struck deep into the earth, and they built the mill around it. When you come to think of the battering that a mill receives from being exposed to the weather and when you think of the internal stresses and strains set up by those tremendous arms revolving and the rumbling and vibrating of the huge millstones inside, then you'll agree that to build around an oak was sound common sense.

People today need something like an oak right in the centre of their lives. That oak is Jesus Christ. The life built around Him will weather all storms and stand firmly to the end.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH:

Jesus said, "Every one who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house upon the rock; and the rain fell and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand; and the rain fell and the floods came and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

(Matt. 5: vv.24/27)

May God bless you all,

Your sincere friend,

ALFRED NASH

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OBITUARY

JOHN WILLIAM MARVELLEY of 161 Featherstall Road, Littleborough, passed away on 14th December 1973. We offer our sincere condolences to Mrs. Marvelley and the family.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

Our Minister conducted the funeral service at Rochdale Crematorium.

HOLY BAPTISM

On Sunday, 6th January at St. Stephen's:

CHRISTOPHER JOHN and JANE ELIZABETH, children of Mr. & Mrs. J. Ineson, 18 Malvern Close, Milnrow.

On Sunday, 20th January at St. Stephen's:

NEIL RODNEY, son of Mr. & Mrs. B. Clough of 9 Bowland Grove, Milnrow

May God richly bless these little ones.

The Minister officiated on both these occasions.

HAVE SERMON- WILL TRAVEL

Sunday 24th February is the date of the District Pulpit Exchange, and this year our Minister is at Littleborough in the morning and Charlestown in the evening.

Mrs. Gillon will be at Albion, Ashton, and Mr. Roberts will travel to Providence, Middleton.

*

S.O.S

St. Stephen's urgently require an additional Pianist or Organist to join the Evening Worship Rota. If you know of anyone who could help out with this job, please have a word with our church secretary.

SUNDAY SPECIAL !!! at St. Stephen's

17th February.....at 6.0 pm.

"SONG OF PRAISE"

Followed by Fellowship Hour in Schoolroom

Come yourself and bring your friends.

JUNIOR CHURCH PANTOMIME VISIT

On Wednesday, 2nd January, 12 teachers and helpers and 50 children from the Beginners Primary and Junior Departments, went along to Oldham Repertory Theatre to see the Pantomime - "Jack and the Beanstalk".

The children thoroughly enjoyed the visit which now seems to have become an annual event, having replaced the Christmas Party.

(For report of the pantomime - see page 11)

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

- Feb. 3rd "Freedom to Become"
John 5: 1 - 9
- 10th "The answer to forgiveness"
Psalm 34: 1 - 5
- 17th "God to the Rescue"
Luke 2: 25 - 32
- 24th "Free to obey - or disobey"
Luke 15: 11 - 24

The bricklayer laid a brick on the bed
of cement,
Then with a precise stroke on his trowel
spread another layer,
And without a by-your-leave, laid on
another brick.
The foundations grew visibly,
The building rose, tall and strong, to
shelter man.

I thought, Lord, of that brick buried in
the darkness at the base of the big
building:

No one sees it, but it accomplishes its
task, and the other bricks meet it.
Lord, what difference whether I am on
the roof-top or in the foundations
of your building, as long as I stand
faithfully at the right place?

FRIENDSHIP

Friendship is a bridge that leads
To a garden full of flowers,
Where one may spend enjoyable
And very pleasant hours --
A bridge that leads to happiness,
Companionship and pleasure,
To affection, understanding,
And to gladness without measure....
I know, for we have walked this bridge,
And found those many things --
How delightful to experience
The joy that friendship brings!

OFFICIALDOM

At the A.G.M. of the Women's Guild at Milnrow
on the 8th January, the following were elected to
office:

President	Mrs. M. Nash
Vice President:	Mrs. M. Howarth
Secretaries:	
Correspondence:	Mrs. C. Clough
Social:	Mrs. M. Holden
Birthday:	Mrs. M. Mellor
Treasure:	Mrs. P. Royle
Flowers:	Mrs. E. Gartside Mrs. E. Smith

At the close of the meeting Mr. H. Mellor gave
a showing of the film "Morning Has Broken."

MINI-MAMMOTH SALE

Or

WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION

will be held by the Women's Guild at Milnrow on

Tuesday, 19th February at 7.30 p.m.

Please find us something to auction. Any old rubbish
do. Any old bric-a-brac such as:

Brassware....Silverware....Copperware

Queen Victoria's Wedding Cake

Useless husbands

Baubles, Bangles, Beads.

Crutches for Lame Ducks

Tin Hats

Guzzunders and Pullovers

Wonders of Art in Plastic and Pot.

It does not really matter because one woman's rubbish
is another woman's bargain.

What are we bid?

"AMERICA"

Dr. Roy Howarth will be showing and speaking
about just some of the photographs he brought
back from his recent visit to the United States,
on Tuesday 5th February at the Women's Guild.

Mark this date on your calendar.

Deadline date for material for March Messenger:

No later than 17th February

THE CREDIBILITY CRISIS

"We live in an age of 'Knowledge shock'. Our senses are continually bombarded by crisis after crisis. At breakfast we are stunned by the latest prison riot. By lunchtime a new war has broken out. During the afternoon rush hour a bizarre gang murder has occurred and on the evening news we hear that unemployment is rising alarmingly.

This is our daily diet of woes. We are forced to devour these woes via magazines, newspapers, radio, television and books. Voices of apocalypse, both secular and religious, tell us Armagedon is knocking at the door. Western man is painfully aware that he lives on a globe wracked with social and political diseases.

.....Is it any wonder, then, that we live also in the age of 'solution shock'? A barrage of organisations, crusaders, parties and special interest groups desperately offer glib solutions to the problems we face. Like so many sociological aspirin tablets they alleviate pain here and there, but do not solve the original complaint."

.....(From a magazine called "Plain Truth")

A QUESTION:

In such a world as this, why do we assume that Christianity will not be believed?

ANSWERS: would be welcomed.

Are you a regular reader of the MESSENGER? If not, why not arrange to have one delivered?
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MOVING EXPERIENCE FOR THE LADIES

Attention, all members of the Women's Guild!
Please note that the monthly meetings will now take
place on the third Tuesday in each month at 7.30 p.m.

Attention, Busy Bees! You are welcome at Guild Meetings.

Attention, all females! We shall be delighted to see
you at our meetings.

If you and your family are sociable, - why not
come to.....

THE FAMILY SOCIAL

and - wait for it

CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS SHOW

on

Saturday, 2nd March at 7.15 pm.

Now is the time for all mums to look in the
rag bag and get sewing.

And that's not all....There's something for everyone:

BEEBLE DRIVE - WHIST - SUPPER
and all kinds of nonsense.

PAY TIME

May we remind you that your annual
subscription to this magazine is now
due. We only charge 2p per copy and
we are almost worth it.

Please continue your subscriptions
to one of the few publications left
in this country which is a "Messenger"
op hope rather than endless gloom.

An Invitation to YOU

On Sunday Evening at Littleborough
10th February at 6.pm.

A SERVICE OF SPECIAL SINGING

followed by 'Fellowship Hour'

Do come and bring another.

An Invitation to YOU and YOUR FRIENDS

FROM THE BOXES

£18.48 was received for World Missions
from the boxes which were emptied in December.
We thank all those who contributed and ask you
to help us again. Mrs. D. Leach will be delighted
to supply you with a box for this year's contri-
butions.

They need your help!

JUMBLE SALE

on April 5th

This is an advance notice so that you
can sort out while you are looking for
material for the Fancy Dress Show, and
remember us when spring cleaning. More
information next month.

Proceeds will be in aid of World Missions
and Junior Church.

NEW YEAR BEGINS WITH BANGING HEADS

Forty six children and nine human beings travelled to Oldham Rep. on January 1st to see the pantomime - "Jack and the Beanstalk." This was an excellent opportunity for the Rev. and Mrs. Nash to hear our little perishers at their noisiest and to see them at their gluttonest as they scoffed enough sweets and the like to give adults toothache just watching.

"Buttercup" went for a good price at the auction, beef being the price it is, but true to real life the gold was rapidly changed into beans in the best traditions of inflationary pantomime. However, all was well in the end, as Stoneyheart and Dame Cobbledick agreed on a settlement within the terms of Act 3, and the wicked Blunderbore of Cloudland was brought down to earth with a bang.

How nice it was to escape from real life into a more rational world.

TWELVE LORDS A LEAPING ?

At last, on the 10th January, twelve members of the Men's Fellowship met for their much delayed "Christmas Supper."

THE ART OF LIVING

Enjoy your work, your rest, your play,
for that's the art of living.
Enjoy what every new day brings,
the getting and the giving -
turning duties into pleasure
everywhere you go -
looking on the sunny side,
and making dull days glow.

.....Patience Strong

CHURCH DUTIES - MILNROW

FAMILY CHURCH DOOR STEWARDS

Feb. 3rd	Mr. A. Bruckshaw	Mrs. A. Baines
10th	Mr. C. Buckley	Mr. A. Rae
17th	Mr. H. Mellor	Mrs. F. Butterworth
24th	Mr. D. Fursey	Mrs. J. Duffy
Mar. 3rd	Counc. J. Harrison	Counc. I. Royle

ELDERS ROTA

EVENING WORSHIP DOOR STEWARDS

ORGANIST/PIANIST

EVENING WORSHIP

Feb. 3rd	Mr. R. Gillon	Mr. D. Logan
10th	Mr. J. Wild	Mr. J. Emmott
17th	Mrs. M. Howarth	Mrs. C. Hey
24th	Mr. K. Hey	Mr. J. Emmott
Mar. 3rd	Mr. B. Clough	Mr. D. Logan

COMMUNION ROTA

Feb. 3rd	Mr. A. Roberts	Mr. J. Emmott
17th	Mr. R. Gillon (a.m.)	Miss M. Wood
Mar. 3rd	Mr. J. Wild	Mr. K. Hey

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

Feb. 3rd	Mrs. A. Wood	Mrs. A. Collins
10th	Mrs. H. Whitehead	Mrs. Greenhalgh
17th	Mrs. E. Garside	Mrs. J. Calow
24th	Mrs. C. Hey	Mrs. M. Mellor
Mar. 3rd	Mrs. J. Cudworth	Mrs. N. Settle

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

OFFERTORIES

	Cash		Envelopes	Total
	am.	pm.		
December	£26.84 ¹ / ₂	£15.03	£68.39 ¹ / ₂	£110.27

CHURCH DUTIES -- LITTLEBOROUGH

DOOR STEWARDS

Feb. 3rd	Mrs. Stott	Mr. E. Holt
10th	Mr. F. Beattie	Mr. Ingham
17th	Mrs. Crossley	Mr. J. Hill
24th	Mr. J. Holt	Mr. Nairn
Mar. 3rd	Ladies Sunday	

ELDERS COMMUNION ROTA

Feb. 10th	Mr. Ingham	Mr. Nairn	6.0 p.m.
27th	Mr. Simpson	Mr. Lord	10.30 am.

COFFEE ROTA

Feb. 3rd	B. Holt	J. Law
10th	S. Moss	D. Mallinson
17th	B. Hartley	W. Spinks
24th	B. Leach	J. Simpson
Mar. 3rd	J. Hobbs	L. Butterworth

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

Feb. 3rd	"Freedom to Become"	
	John 5: 1 - 9	P. Lightfoot
10th	"The Answer to Forgiveness"	
	Psalm 34: 1 - 5	S. Moss
17th	"God to the Rescue"	
	Luke 2: 25 - 32	M. G. Hill
24th	"Free to Obey - or disobey"	
	Luke 15: 11 - 24	Martin Law
Mar. 3rd		H. Vincent

ST. STEPHEN'S DIARY

February

Sun. 3rd 11.00 am. Rev. A.V.J. Nash B.A.
6.00 pm. Service of Word & Sacrament
Mon. 4th 6.30 pm. & each Monday: Pilots
8.00 pm. Annual Church Meeting
Tues. 5th 7.30 pm. Women's Guild: Dr. Roy Howarth
Sun. 10th 11.00 am. Mr. N. Prince
6.00 pm. Mr. J. Scott
Mon. 11th 7.30 pm. World Mission Committee
at 18 Heaton Street.
Tues. 12th 7.30 pm. Junior Church Staff meeting
at 18 Ashfield Lane
Wed. 13th 7.30 pm. Elders Meeting
Sun. 17th 11.00 am. Rev. A.V.J. Nash (Family Communion)
6.00 pm. " (SONGS OF PRAISE &
Fellowship Hour)
Tues. 19th 7.30 pm. White Elephant Auction
Sun. 24th 11.00 am. Mr. D. Jones
6.00 pm. Rev. W. Purvis

March

Sun. 3rd 11.00 am. Rev. A.V.J. Nash B.A.
6.00 pm. Service of Word & Sacrament
Tues. 5th 7.30 pm. Women's Guild: Counc. Edwards

FLOWERS FOR THE COMMUNION TABLE

Feb. 3rd	Mrs. Holland	Mrs. E. Prince
10th	Mrs. F. Cooper	
17th	Mrs. R. Rothwell	Mrs. F. Butterworth
24th	Mrs. Kenyon	
Mar. 3rd	Mrs. E. Smith	Mrs. H. Buckley

LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

February

Sun. 3rd 10.30 am. Mr. J. Lord and
 Wed. 6th 6.45 pm. Pilots
 Fri. 8th 7.30 pm. Film Evening
 Sun. 10th 10.30 am. Rev. A. J. Nash
 6.0 pm.
 Wed. 13th 6.45 pm. Pilots
 Sun. 17th 10.30 am. Mrs. M. Nash
 Tues. 19th PLEASE NOTE
 7.30 pm. Women's Guild: Birthday Supper
 7.45 pm. Junior Church Staff
 Wed. 20th 6.45 pm. Pilots
 Sun. 24th 10.30 am. Exchange Pulpit
 Wed. 27th 6.45 pm. Pilots
 Thur. 28th 7.30 pm. Men's Fellowship:
 Rev. J.B. Darnbrough

March

Sat. 2nd Family Social (see page 9)
 Sun. 3rd 10.30 am.) LADIES SUNDAY
 3.00 pm.) Mrs. M. Nash

FLOWERS FOR COMMUNION TABLE

February 3rd Mrs. White
 10th Mrs. Greenwood
 17th Mrs. Mills
 24th Misses Dobson
 March 3rd Mrs. Jackson

OFFERTORIES

		Cash	Envelopes
December	2nd	£2.00	£6.32½
	9th	£2.88	£11.04
	16th	£10.50	£17.55
	23rd	£ 2.85½	£ 8.47½
	30th	£ 2.77	£12.95
January	6th	£ 1.72	£ 7.00

Dec. 25th: Christmas Morning Service: Christian Aid £3.

